CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1263
CD/NTB/WP.121
16 June 1994

ENGLISH
Original: CHINESE/ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JUNE 1994 FROM THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT MADE ON 10 JUNE 1994 BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement made on 10 June 1994 by the Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China.

I would be grateful if this document could be circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and a working paper of the NTB Ad Hoc Committee.

(Signed): Hou Zhitong
Ambassador for
Disarmament Affairs
Head of the Delegation
of the People's Republic
of China to the
Conference on Disarmament

Statement by the Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry
of the People's Republic of China
(10 June 1994)

On 10 June 1994, China conducted an underground nuclear test.

China has consistently favoured the complete prohibition and total destruction of nuclear weapons and, within this context, the introduction of a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Proceeding from this fundamental position, it has always exercised great restraint in conducting nuclear tests and the number of nuclear tests it has conducted is extremely limited.

China fully respects and understands the position and concern of the many non-nuclear weapon States on the question of nuclear testing. At this moment it is participating in negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty, and it supports the idea that the negotiations should result in a treaty no later than 1996. The treaty should be a step towards the complete prohibition and total destruction of nuclear weapons. We call on other nuclear-weapon States to give up their policy of nuclear deterrence and commit themselves explicitly to the complete prohibition and total destruction of nuclear weapons. We are ready to continue our unremitting efforts alongside the international community for the early realization of this ultimate goal.